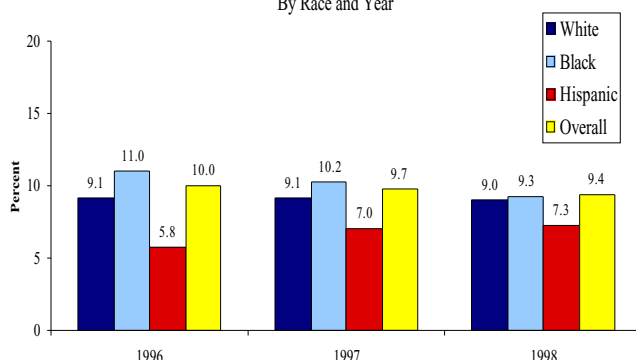


Pregnancy and Smoking

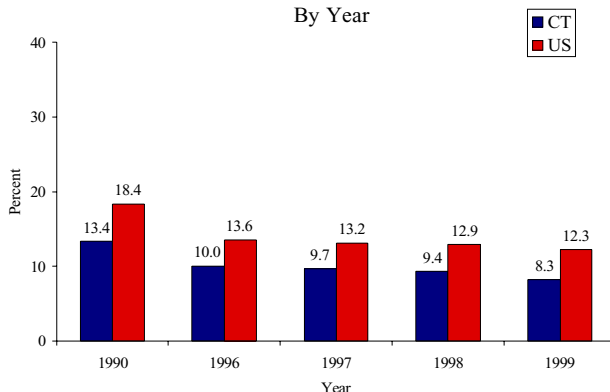
- In Connecticut between 1996 and 1998, about 11,400 women who gave birth reported smoking during pregnancy.
- Between 1996 and 1998 in Connecticut, the percent of women who gave birth and reported smoking during pregnancy:
 - Decreased slightly
 - Remained relatively unchanged among Whites
 - Decreased among Blacks
 - Increased among Hispanics, although they were the least likely to have reported smoking

Women in Connecticut Who Gave Birth and Smoked During Pregnancy
By Race and Year



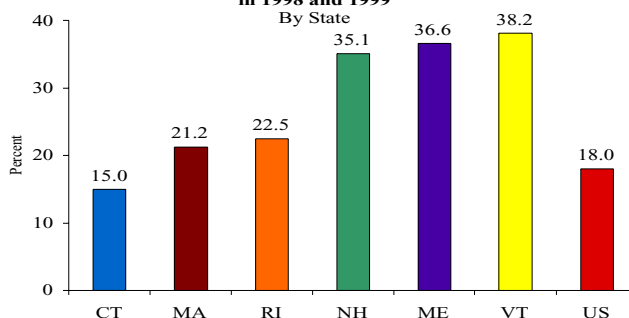
- In 1999, Connecticut had one of the 10 lowest rates in the US of smoking among pregnant women. Connecticut's rate of 8.3% was the best in New England.

Percent of Mothers Who Smoked During Pregnancy
Connecticut vs. US
By Year



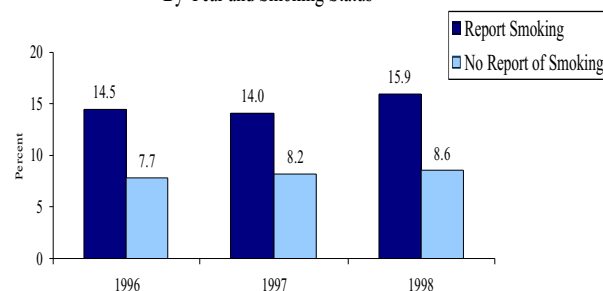
- In 1998 and 1999, Connecticut had the lowest rate of smoking (15.0%) among pregnant teens (age 15-19) in New England. Connecticut's rate was also better than the national average (18.0%).

Percent of Teens Aged 15-19
Who Smoked During Pregnancy
in 1998 and 1999
By State



- Even though Connecticut has one of the lowest rates of smoking during pregnancy, every year thousands of women who give birth report smoking while pregnant. Cigarette smoking during pregnancy can cause serious health problems in an unborn child.
- In Connecticut, nearly 155,000 or 25% of women of childbearing age (18-44) are smokers.
- Between 1996 and 1998 in Connecticut, women who reported smoking during pregnancy were about 1.8 times more likely to give birth to low birthweight babies than were women who did not report smoking.

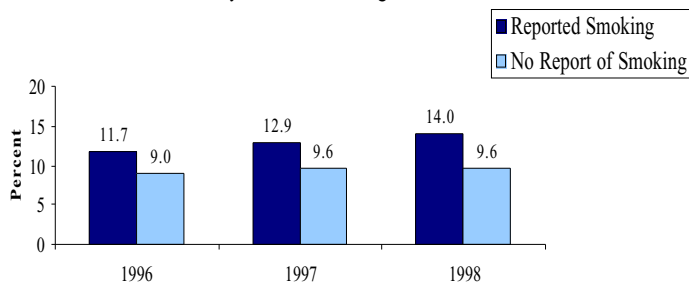
Women in Connecticut Who Gave Birth
to Low Birthweight Babies
By Year and Smoking Status



Pregnancy and Smoking continued

- Health costs associated with pregnancy and smoking are approximately \$4.1 million per year in Connecticut.
- Maternal smoking increases infant death rates by 162% and has been linked to preterm delivery, low birthweight, stillbirth, miscarriage, and mental retardation.
- In Connecticut from 1996 to 1998, women who smoked while pregnant were 1.3 to 1.5 times more likely to give birth to premature babies than were women who did not report smoking. Neonatal intensive care costs in 1994 for a single premature infant in the US ranged from \$20,000-\$400,000.

Women in Connecticut Who Gave Birth to Premature Babies
By Year and Smoking Status



- Some of these low birth weight babies will die, and 50% of those who survive will suffer from some type of mental or physical disability.
 - At least one study suggests that a woman who smokes during pregnancy increases her risk of having a baby with mental retardation by 50%, and smoking 1 pack or more a day increases the risk by 75% or more.
 - Exposure to intrauterine smoke toxins increases an infant's risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
 - It is estimated that 3.4%-8.4% of perinatal deaths are attributed to maternal smoking. In Connecticut from 1994-1998, this represented an average of 18-44 deaths per year.
 - Sixty-three percent of women who quit smoking during pregnancy relapse, thereby promoting respiratory illnesses and tripling the risk of SIDS by exposing their children to secondhand smoke.
 - There were 170 SIDS deaths in Connecticut between 1994 and 2000. Some of these deaths may in part be attributable to an infant's exposure to secondhand smoke in the home.
 - Women who smoke have nicotine in their breast milk; therefore, her baby ingests nicotine while nursing.
- Lifetime medical care costs of caring for a premature baby are conservatively projected to be \$500,000 per case.
 - Smoking has a negative impact on the weight of a newborn and its survival. The carbon monoxide and nicotine in the cigarettes smoked by the mother cause a decrease in the amount of nutrients and oxygen that get to her baby, and, as a result, the baby's birth weight may be low.



Keeping Connecticut Healthy

Just a thought...

Not one of the more than 4,000 different chemicals in tobacco smoke is nutritious or beneficial for you, your baby, or your family. Instead, you could take the money that you would spend on cigarettes, invest it, and use it to put your child through college when the time comes. And remember, the money a pack-a-day smoker spends on cigarettes every year is enough to buy a year's worth of disposable diapers plus a crib or other baby accessories.